

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 SCCT-01 IO-13 /098 W

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P R 201235Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1905

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

S E C R E T NAIROBI 8846

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, KE, UG, IS, LY

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE UGANDAN-PALESTINIAN COMMANDO ATTACK ON KENYA

1. DURING CONVERSATION ON OTHER MATTERS AUG. 20, MOD PERMSEC KIEREINI TOLD DCM THAT KENYA HAD RECEIVED INTELLIGENCE THAT UGANDA INTENDS TO LAUNCH COMMANDO RAID AGAINST TARGETS IN KENYA. EVIDENTLY PERSUADED THAT CONVENTIONAL ATTACK WOULD BE TOO RISKY, AMIN HAS REPORTEDLY BEGUN TRAINING COMMANDOS, WHO WOULD WORK TOGETHER WITH PALESTINIANS, TO STAGE RAID ON NAIROBI AIRPORT. OBJECTIVES WOULD BE TO DESTROY (IN ORDER OF PRIORITY) AIRCRAFT BELONGING TO EL AL, BRITISH AIRWAYS, PAN AM, AND EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS. SEPARATE COMMANDO ATTACK ON MOMBASA OIL REFINERY IS ALSO REPORTEDLY BEING PLANNED.

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2. KIEREINI SAID THIS INTELLIGENCE CAME FROM SOURCES

INSIDE UGANDA, AND FITS TOGETHER WITH KNOWN PRESENCE IN KENYA OF UGANDAN AND PALESTINIAN AGENTS WHO ARE THOUGHT TO BE RECONNOITERING. COMMANDOS DESTINED FOR NAIROBI ARE EXPECTED TO USE BOEING 707 SPECIALLY PROVIDED FOR THIS PURPOSE BY LIBYA. AIRCRAFT WOULD ORIGINATE FROM GULU OR NAKASAKOLA, NOT ENTEBBE.

3. KENYANS UNDERSTOOD TANZANIA HAD RECENTLY AGREED TO DELIVER LARGE QUANTITY OF AVIATION FUEL TO MWANZA (TANZANIA), FROM WHICH IT WOULD BE AIRLIFTED TO UGANDA. GOK SUSPECTS THERE MAY BE SOME CONNECTION BETWEEN REPORTED COMMANDO PLANS AND ACQUISITION OF AVIATION FUEL THROUGH THE BACK DOOR.

4. COMMENT: AMIN'S ULTIMATUM TO ISRAEL DEMANDING COMPENSATION FOR ENTEBBE RAID, MONITORED BY FBIS AUGUST 18 FROM RADIO UGANDA, CONTAINS EXPLICIT THREAT TO "PAY BACK" ISRAEL. THIS THREAT ADDS PLAUSIBILITY TO REPORTS OF POSSIBLE COMMANDO RAID IN NAIROBI WITH PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION, BANKROLLED BY LIBYA. HOWEVER, EMBASSY SO FAR UNABLE TO OBTAIN INDEPENDENT CORROBORATION OF REPORTS IN PARAS 1-3 ABOVE.
MARSHALL

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NNN

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